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THE LADY SCHOOL TRUSTEE

IDA MAY DAVIS TAKES HER POSITION ON THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND IS MADE SECRETARY. SKETCH OF THE FIRST WOMAN TRUSTEE IN INDIANA.

For the first time in the history of Indiana a woman has been made a member of the board of trustees of the public schools.

Mrs. Ida May Davis, elected to succeed Mr. Charles Hoff, met with the board for the first time last evening. She was promptly chosen secretary of the board. Mr. Boland continues as treasurer and Dr. Waters was chosen president. There was a great deal of business before the board, but it was not completed. After passing on the new textbooks for the schools and allowing the usual number of bills, the board adjourned. It has been discovered that the board had been under a misapprehension as to the amount of the bonds. The treasurers' bond must be \$200,000 and the other members one third this amount. Mrs. Davis' bond was filed yesterday and was signed by N.R. Filbeck, M.S. Durham, and Col. W.E. McLean.

Mrs. Davis, the new trustee, is well acquainted with school work, having herself been identified with the work of public schools, and she will be able to care for the duties of trustee in a creditable manner. Ida May Davis (DePuy) was born at Lafayette, Ind, and came to Terre Haute almost thirty years ago, being at that time "a few years old." She graduated from the public schools and afterwards taught in them for a term of ten years. She was united in marriage to Mr. H.C. Davis in 1876 and about five years ago she withdrew from the schools. At the time of her retirement she had charge of two of the higher grades at the First District School. Mrs. Davis had been identified with the writers of Indiana for several years and after her withdrawal from the school work she devoted herself almost exclusively to literary work, and has published several volumes. She has written mostly in verse, for papers and magazines ever since her fifteenth year. Last year Mrs. Davis published a volume entitled "The National Poets of America" containing over one thousand biographical sketches and selections of living American poets.

For this work Mrs. Davis has been highly complimented.

During the coming year Mrs. Davis contemplates the publication of her writings in book form. The next issue of the Magazine of Poetry, published at Buffalo, N.Y., will contain a picture with a sketch and selections from the pen of Mrs. Davis. Her work will also occupy a prominent place in the work of Benjamin S. Parker, upon "The Poets and Poetry of Indiana" which will soon be issued. Mrs. Davis is a member of the Western Association of Writers, a fact in which she takes a great deal of pleasure. She is one of its most enthusiastic members.

Mrs. Davis is about the average height, slight of form, but with well sheaped head and face, and eyes full of intelligence. A charming conversationalist, with a good vein of business sense in her composition, she will devote a great deal of time to her new duties.

TERRE HAUTE EVEING GAZETTE--JUNE 6, 1891